

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1, 8, 11, and 18 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant's invention. No new matter has been introduced thereby. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 13-14, 16-17, and 19-20 were objected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 13-14, 16-17, and 19-20 have not been amended because Applicant believes that independent claims 1, 8, 11, and 18 as amended, as well as claims, 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 13-14, 16-17, and 19-20 are patentable.

Claims 1-2, 5, 8, 11-12, 15, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tetsushi (JPO Publication No. 11-045514).

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentable over Tetsushi because, for instance, Tetsushi does not disclose a track reproduction signal recorded by an irradiated laser beam. Independent claims 8, 11, and 18 recite similar features as that of independent claim 1.

The present invention is related to improving problems related to a RMW front end or a RMW rear end when a slight recording shift has occurred. The present invention controls recording area based on a phase difference of wobble synchronizing signal and laser-beam-recorded track synchronizing signal to reduce likelihood of the issue. See, e.g., paragraphs [0006], [0009], [0012], [0016]; FIGS. 2B-2C. An ADIP sync detector 6 detects an ADIP sync, the phase of which is modulated to provide a wobble reproduction signal. See, e.g., paragraph [0030] of the present specification as originally filed. A laser driver 15 generates the recording pulse used for forming a recording mark on a track. Independent claims 1, 8, 11, and 18 have been amended to recite this feature of the present invention: "said track reproduction signal is recorded by an irradiated laser beam."

As shown in FIG. 1 of Tetsushi, the phase detector 26 receives an output signal of the ADIP detector 19 and an output signal of the timing controller 27. The timing controller 27

has a function of timing controller 24 in FIG. 12 (see, e.g., paragraph [0037]). The timing controller 24 is controlled by ADIP SYNC signal (see, e.g., paragraph [0016]). That is, the timing controller 27 is also controlled by ADIP SYNC signal. This means that the phase detector 26 is controlled by ADIP SYNC signal, and is not controlled by a track SYNC signal.

The Examiner states that the second timing detector in independent claim 1 is equal to the unit 27 in Tetsushi. However, Tetsushi does not disclose a second timing detector having a second timing synchronized with a track synchronizing signal, which is disclosed in independent claim 1. Thus, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection.

For at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 1, 8, 11, and 18, as well as claims 2, 5, 8, 12, and 15 depending therefrom, are novel and patentable over Tetsushi.

Claims 1-2, 5, 8, 11-12, 15, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bokui (U.S. Patent No. 6,674,330).

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentable over Bokui because, for instance, Bokui does not disclose a track reproduction signal recorded by an irradiated laser beam. Independent claims 8, 11, and 18 recite similar features as that of independent claim 1.

Bokui is directed to a recording clock generation circuit that includes a first phase comparator for detecting a phase difference between a wobble signal and a PLL internal signal, and a second phase comparator for detecting a phase difference between the wobble signal and a pre-pit signal. See, e.g., Abstract and column 3, lines 41-52. The Examiner states that the track reproduction signal of the second timing in independent claim 11 is associated with pre-pit signal (B) in FIG. 1 of Bokui. Independent claims 1, 8, 11, and 18 have been amended to clearly distinguish between the track synchronizing signal and the pre-pit signal of Bokui, in that the pre-pit signal of Bokui is not recorded by an irradiated laser beam. In addition, Bokui does not disclose a phase difference detector which compares a wobble signal and a track signal recorded by a laser beam, which is disclosed in independent apparatus claims 1 and 8.

For at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 1, 8, 11, and 18, as well as claims 2, 5, 8, 12, and 15 depending therefrom, are novel and patentable over Bokui.

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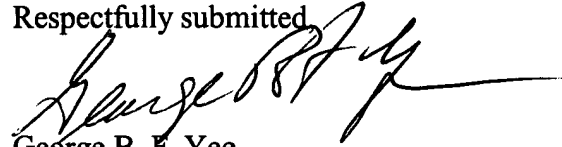
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George B. F. Yee", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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